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House of Representatives

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June 22, 2009

The Honorable David R. Obey
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Room H-218, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

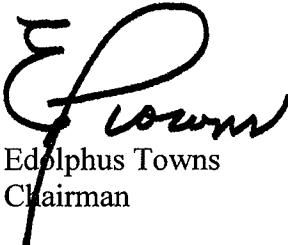
The Honorable Jose E. Serrano
Chairman, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government
Committee on Appropriations
Room B-300, Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Obey and Serrano:

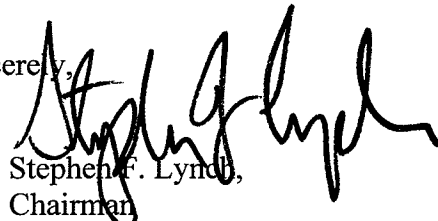
We write to urge you to preserve the important principle of 'pay parity' between active duty military personnel and civilian federal employees. We strongly support the Committee on Armed Services' inclusion of a 3.4% pay raise for military personnel as part of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 National Defense Authorization Act and encourage including language providing an equal pay adjustment to civilian employees in the FY 2010 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill.

Federal employees work side-by-side with military personnel both here and abroad, and deserve to be recognized for their extraordinary efforts. Civilian employees serving at DOD, FBI, State, DHS, and at many other agencies support the men and women of the armed forces and work tirelessly to ensure the security of our nation.

Pay parity has long enjoyed bipartisan and bicameral support, and we ask your Committee to continue this tradition.


Edolphus Towns
Chairman

Sincerely,


Stephen F. Lynch,
Chairman

Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal
Service and District of Columbia